

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

L-03 CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 MC-02 DRC-01 /112 W

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P R 301359Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4461

SECDEF ISA/DSAA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION NATO

JCS WASHDC

USAF WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN, GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 4809

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, PINT, NL

SUBJECT: F-104 REPLACEMENT-VISIT BY BOARD CHAIRMEN OF
GENERAL DYNAMICS AND UNITED AIRCRAFT

1. ON 21 SEPTEMBER MAAG NETHERLANDS WAS CONTACTED BY
GENERAL DYNAMICS PERSONNEL WHO ADVISED IT OF A PLANNED
VISIT OF THE CHAIRMEN OF THE BOARD OF GENERAL DYNAMICS AND
UNITED AIRCRAFT. PURPOSE OF THE VISIT WAS TO MEET WITH HIGH
LEVEL DUTCH POLITICAL AND MILITARY PERSONNEL INVOLVED WITH
SELECTION OF F104 REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT. DUR THE VISIT
G.D. WAS PLANNING A SOCIAL EVENING AND DINNER FOR THE
SENIOR POLITICAL AND MILITARY PERSONNEL.

2. DUE TO THE POLITICAL CLIMATE, PARTICULARLY THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES BEING CONDUCTED IN THE LOWER CHAMBER
ON THE DUTCH WHITE PAPER, AND SEVERAL PRESS ARTICLES
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ALLUDING TO POSSIBLE BRIBERY OF POLITICAL PERSONNEL

INVOLVED IN F-104 DECISION PROCESS, MAAG THOUGH IT INADVISABLE TO PROMOTE VISIT AT THIS TIME. ADDITIONALLY, MAAG SOUGHT ADVICE FROM THE COUNTRY TEAM.

3. THE COUNTRY TEAM MEETING CONCLUDED WITH THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. THE BEST INTEREST OF U.S. AND GENERAL DYNAMICS WOULD BE SERVED BY DELAYING THE VISIT.
- B. IF GENERAL DYNAMICS ELECTED TO CONTINUE VISIT, VISIT SHOULD INCLUDE ONLY MINISTERS OF DEFENSE, ECON, AND A REPRESENTATIVE FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS. IT WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL TO REQUEST A CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER AT THIS TIME.
- C. PLANS FOR DINNER AND SOCIAL EVENING SHOULD BE CANCELLED. SENIOR RNLAFF PERSONNEL FURTHER CONFIRMED ADVISABILITY OF CANCELLING THE SOCIAL EVENT.

4. TO ENSURE THAT GENERAL DYNAMICS THOROUGHLY UNDERSTOOD EMBASSY'S DESIRE TO FURTHER ALL AMERICAN COMPETITORS IN THE STAR FIGHTER REPLACEMENT PROJECT, AMBASSADOR CALLED ST. LOUIS AND TALKED TO MR. OTTO GLASSER, PRESIDENT OF GENERAL DYNAMICS INTERNATIONAL. SEE SEPTTEL.

5. AFTER RECAPING THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THIS COUNTRY, AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED A LOW KEY APPROACH FOR ALL CONTRACTORS IN THE NETHERLANDS AT THIS TIME. FURTHER HE ADVISED MR. GLASSER THAT HE MAY FIND IT CONVENIENT AND HELPFUL FOR GD TO CONTACT MR. ED BEIGEL OF STATE DEPARTMENT FROM TIME TO TIME, TO KEEP APPRISED OF POLITICAL CLIMATE IN THE NETHERLANDS. GOULD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, VISITS, MEETINGS, SOCIAL RECEPTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974THEHA04809
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740275-0564
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974091/aaaaaok.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 APR 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <10 JUL 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: F-104 REPLACEMENT-VISIT BY BOARD CHAIRMEN OF GENERAL DYNAMICS AND UNITED AIRCRAFT
TAGS: MASS, BE, DA, NL, NO, DYNAMICS, UNITED AIRCRAFT
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005